

HEREFORD

T A K E N :

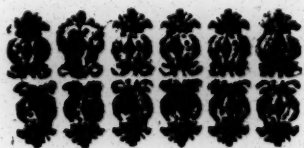
A C O P I E

O F

Collonel *MORGAN'S* Letter of the storming of Hereford; With the manner of the Fight, and taking of the Town and Garrison, on Thursday morning last, Decemb, 18, 1645.

Wherein was taken,

The Governour of the Towne, foure Lords, twenty Knights, Collonels, and Majors; one hundred Captains, Lieutenants, Cornets, and Ensignes; 100 Gentlemen and inferior Officers; many Papists, 500 Prisoners, many slain, 1000 Armes, 20 Barrels of Gunpowder, 11, Peeces of Ordnance, A great quantity of provisions, and all their qsg and baggage.



L O N D O N,

Printed for *Jane Coe*, 1645.

HERFORD

A C O P E

CHURCH OF ST. MARY
HERFORD
1840

THE
CHURCH OF ST. MARY
HERFORD
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LONDON

Printed by J. W. Smith



THE
HAPPY NEWES

of the taking of

HEREFORD,

On Thursday last by

Colonell MORGAN.

A Copie of Colonell MORGANS Letter.

SIR,



I hath pleased God exceedingly to blesse my proceedings, in giving a blessed successe to my endeavours, in the taking of this Garrison, though with great difficulty in regard of the season of the year, and the deepnesse of the snow, which was above a foot thick,

my forces consisted of a 110. Horse and foote,
and Birches forces of 900. Foote, which being
ioyned upon Munday, we marched from Gloster
and thought to have reached Hereford that
night, but our Footesouldiers were so much
spent by that time we came within 6. Miles of
Hereford, that they were able to march no far-
ther, so we were constrained to draw back to-
wards Gloster; that the enemy here should take
the lesse notice of any designe, upon Wednesday
night we marched towards it againe, and drew
up our forces within musket shot of the towne
under an hill, about an houre before day, on
Thursday: and before Sunrileing made our at-
tempt with good effect for us with very small
losse, divers of the enemy were slaine in the
streete and the rest taken prisoners; we have al-
ready in custody 120. Lords, Knights, and Of-
ficers, in commission, who are to be sent to
Gloster, the most of them are papists, for com-
mon prisoners. I am not able as to give a true
list, nor of our Armes, only 11. Peeces of Ordi-
nance, and a reasonable quantity of all sorts of
Ammunition. Captain *Temple* had the honour to
command the forlorn Hope of Horse, and beha-
ved himself very gallantly. By this the Popes nest
in Hereford is spoyled, which is all for this
time, hoping to give you a full relation by the
next, and do remaine

Sir

The manner of the taking of *Hereford* was thus; That
Colonel *Morgan* the Governour of Gloucester, having re-
ceived orders for the taking of *Hereford* Garrison, hee had
correspondency with Colonel *Birch* to joyne their forces
together; for the same Col. *Birch* with 900 Foote came
to Gloucester to Col. *Morgan*, who drew out all their for-
ces out of Gloucester on Munday the 15 of December,
their whole body consisting of 2000 Horse and Foote, 110
of Col. *Morgans*, and 900 foot of Col. *Birches*: they mar-
ched out early in the morning intending to have reached
some good quarters that night about *Hereford*, to have laid
ready for action that night, but the extremity of the weather
was so hard, that they marched with much difficulty, by
reason of the extremity of Frost and Snow that hindered
them: for the horse did not only march very difficult was
by reason of the Ice, and also of the Snow and season of the
yeeres, but the poore Foot had so hard a march of it, that
they could not reach so far as they intended: for the Snow
was not only a foot deep in their ordinary way, but in some
places they could not passe till the Snow was shovelled out
of the way before them, in pits and deepe places; sometime
the Ice also was very dangerous both to horse and foote, and
in their ordinary march they went up to the knees in Snow
so that that night, though with all the labour and pains they
could attaine, they could not get soone enough to attempt any
thing before the enemy had drawne up their drawne up their
draw bridge and secured themselves, yet the souldiers were
very resolute, and did as much as could be expected on
their part, and we very sory that they could not accomplish
their desires as was intended, but still proceeded in the de-
signe with all care till they had effected it: but the honest-
nesse of the souldiers was such that they much wearied
and tyred themselves in their march, and would faine have
got to *Hereford*, but could not.

On that night they came within about six miles of *Hereford*, but were so tired, that they could march no further which posselt our friends with some fear that they might be discovered to the enemy, and so the designe hindered, but it was carried out with such discretion, that the enemy had no knowledge of them brought to *Hereford*, till they were surprized in their quarters, and that night they withdrew something back towards *Glocester*, not holding it secure to lie too near *Hereford*.

On *Tuesday* they sent out Scouts to see if any thing were discovered, as also to fetch in provision to furnish their Soldiers knapsacks; and seeing the difficultie of the work, took counsell what to doe for the better securitie in the accomplishing thereof: which before all things could be accomplished with discretion to perfect the designe with best advantage, they were constrained not to march on till *Wednesday*. On *Wednesday* toward; night they marched againe towards *Hereford*, intending to try if they could take it next morning, and so ordered it, that the enemy might draw up the bridge, and lie secure in the town, before our men approached, lest some or other should carry the news into *Hereford*, to discover them to the Governour.

During this time of their lying at distance, the country thought they had been designed for the strengthening of the siege before *Chester*, upon the occasion of that party that was gone from *Oxford*, *Banbury*, and those parts for the relief of *Chester*.

That night Colonell *Morgan* drew up his Forces within Musket shot of their works at *Hereford*, and quartered behind a hill which is on one side of the Town, so that the enemy could not discover them there, either by the light of the Moon, or the next morning before the designe was put in execution, considering that to be the best place of advantage for the acting of the business. When our men were settled about an houre before break of day the next morning; where they having marched all that night and were very weary, yet neglected no opportunity to prosecute the designe, wherein every one in their proper place acted with much gallantry, to have all things in a readinesse, and perfect the

accomplishment of the taking in of Herd, and accordingly God gave them a good successe.

On Tuesday before Sunrising, Collonel Morgan sent out 6. gallant resolute men, one of them pretended to be the high Constable, with a warrant from the Governour of Hereford, for the bringing in of men to break up the Ice in the wayes, and after then Captaine Temple marched with a party of horse on the forelorn hope: and at the letting down of the Bridge, the pretended high Constable with his bill on his shoulder, and the rest with Shovels, Spades, and Pickaxes, went to the draw Bridge which was let downe, and 2. Centinells set to keepe it, the high Constable got away over the Bridge; and with his Bill slew one of them, and after the other Centinell was slain, by which they gained that service, then Captaine Temple came up with his forlorn hope, and after him the rest: in the meane time Captaine Temple fought gallantly so long till he had his horse twice shot under him, and his sword broken almost to the very hilt; many of the enenies slaine in the streete, and the rest taken prisoners; some fled to the market place, and maintained that a while, but in short time Collonel Morgan had a compleate victory, and the souldiers good store of plunder in the Town.

A

A List of what was taken in Hereford by Colonel
Morgan, on Thursday the 21. of Decemb. 1645

THe Governour of the Towne.

Four Lords.

Twenty Knights, Colonels, and Majors.

One hundred Captaines, Lieutenants, Cornets, and
Ensignes.

One hundred Gentlemen, and Inferior Officers.

Many Papists. Five hundred Prisoners, Many slain.

One thousand Armes.

Twenty Barrells of Gun-powder.

Eleven Peeeces of Ordnance,

Good store of other Ammunition.

A great quantity of Provision.

And all their Bag and Baggage.

R. I. N. S.